

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 remain active in the application, of which 4-10 and 14-20 have been allowed.

The specification had been amended in the last response to refer to the edges 4A and 4B of the longitudinal ends of the rotor 4. Moreover, Claims 1 and 11 had been amended to recite that the longer blades extend from these edges. Applicants had noted that support for this could be found in Fig. 2B.

Claims 1-3 and 11-13 have now been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement because it is the Examiner's position that the "mixing rotor" is the entire structure shown in Figure 1, and that the blades do not extend from the edges of this structure. This, however, is respectfully traversed for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Sorkin for the courtesy of a brief discussion of this rejection over the telephone on August 25, 2003. As was discussed at that time, the claims recite that the blades extend from "an edge" of the mixing rotor. The mixing rotor, moreover, is explicitly described in the specification. For example, while Fig. 1 is described as a plan view showing the mixing rotors (i.e., it "shows" the mixing rotors but is not limited to showing *only* the mixing rotors), the rotors are themselves designated in the specification with the reference number "4", which in Fig. 1 is found in the region delimited by the length "L." Moreover, "L" is explicitly defined in the specification as the length of the mixing rotor

(p. 7, line 16; "L: length of the mixing rotor"). Thus Figure 1 shows the mixing rotors within the limited region "L."

Figs. 2A and 2B, moreover, are described in the specification as showing developments of the mixing rotors (p. 4, last paragraph). Figs. 2A and 2B illustrate elements designated with the reference number "4" and respectively labeled "RIGHT ROTOR" and "LEFT ROTOR." These figures illustrate the blades as extend from the edges of the rotors 4 as is recited in the claims. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that those skilled in the art would readily find support for the claimed feature of the blades as extending from the edges of the mixing rotors.

The specification has been further amended as required in paragraph 4, and the drawings are being amended as required in paragraph 3.

Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit and early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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